IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant * Silchrist, T.

Serial No : 509/424,811

: Hoffmann, J Examiner : 1731

Art Unit

: May 31, 1997 Filed

: Method of Producing

Water-Soluble Glass Fibers

AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, DC 20231

S I R:

With reference to the Office Action dated 29 May 2001 identified as paper number 6 in the file, Applicant traverses the rejection of the claims of the application under 35 USC 103 and requests reconsideration of the application in its original form and as amended herein.

Please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A method for forming water-soluble silver ion releasing glass fibers, the method comprising providing a composition suitable for producing a water-soluble silver ion releasing glass and heating said composition above the melting point of said glass to form a molten glass, cooling at least a portion of said molten glass to a preselected working temperature, maintaining the temperature of the portion of said molten glass at the working temperature and then processing said molten glass having said working temperature into fibers.